

ASSURANCE DOUBLY SURE.

An Attempt to Further Solidify the Solid South.

The People to be Deprived of the Right of Choosing Presidential Electors—The Privilege to be Vested in the State Legislatures—Chalmers' Plan Adopted by the Democratic Committee.

A New Democratic Scheme. It now appears that some of the Southern Democratic leaders, especially General Chalmers, of Mississippi, have become very anxious lately to make assurance doubly sure in the matter of the choice of Democratic Presidential electors from the Solid South. During the recent meeting of the Southern National Executive committee in this city, this subject was warmly discussed, and Chalmers submitted a plan which was matured and finally recommended for adoption by the straight-out Bourbons of Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida and South Carolina, particularly, and the entire South generally.

In the four States mentioned as well as in Georgia, the spirit of Independence has become so rife lately that these straight-out Bourbon managers begin to be frightened at a prospect that the even tenor of their supremacy may be interfered with in the National contest next year. They believe, however, that if the choice of electors is taken away from the people and vested in the legislatures, the certainty that all of the electoral votes could be consolidated upon the regular Democratic nominee will be secured, and the danger that the struggling vote here and there for a Greenbacker, an Independent or any candidate opposed to the Democrats will be avoided. General Chalmers does not admit the possibility of this danger, but does admit that the political evolutions of the coming year may produce conditions in the South which will advantage to make combinations for the defeat of the regular Bourbon programme. He believes, therefore, that the choice of electors would be safer in the hands of the legislatures, where each and every vote could be counted, than it would be if left open to sporadic influences which may prevail among the masses.

The Constitutional provision relating to the choice of electors reads as follows: Each State shall appoint in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct a number of electors, equal to the whole number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in Congress.

This provision has already been taken advantage of in Louisiana, where the scheme is now in process of ratification to abolish the present system of choosing electors by Congressional districts, with two "at large" for each State. The Louisiana legislature, which is now in session, has passed a bill to this effect. This example will no doubt be followed in pursuance of the Chalmers plan as recommended by the Democratic National committee. It is therefore probable that bills for this purpose will be introduced into the several legislatures of the Southern States as soon as practicable, and the understanding is that extra sessions of those bodies will be called, if required, for the accomplishment of this object.

The direct political significance of this movement resides in the determination it exhibits upon the part of the Southern Bourbons to perpetuate their rule despite any inclination of the masses of the people for a change. The effectiveness of this scheme will at once be admitted when it is remembered that the concentration of the power to choose electors in compact bodies like the legislatures of these States will enable the Democratic managers to exert a more potent influence over the results to be obtained than they could exercise otherwise. And the plan is in entire accord with the Bourbon idea of government—to remove from the people as far as possible all right to be heard directly in the election of their rulers.

SOUTHERN DESPOTISM.

The Way Colored People Fare in Florida.

THE EDITOR OF THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN: Sir: I wish to let the public know how a portion of Florida treats a part of its citizens. Yours is the only daily published at the capital of the Nation that constantly and unswervingly advocates universal justice alike to all races. And the disfranchisement and oppression of the colored people in the South have been exposed to public view again and again in the columns of THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN, whose tone on the Southern question has no unequalled sound. For your state, your country, your race, your rights, standing for a true almost single and alone in denunciation of Southern outrages, you have the hearty thanks of the loyal and liberty-loving people in the whole country, especially in the South.

The colored people in West Florida have watched with interest the exodus movement, but will in no wise hinder their time, and hope for blame, Sherman or Grant and R. H. Still they admit that the cruelty and injustice to which they are subjected are bearable only with severe and long-suffering endurance. These whites have regarded the colored people, which they agree what they will pay for labor, and it is compulsory upon every farmer to join one of these organizations on pain of being branded as a disloyal citizen. They recently decided to pay from \$10 to \$25 per month for farm hands, and from this decision there is no appeal, as no planter in the entire country has been able to obtain a colored man to work on his plantation. No sooner than this was attempted the Southern chivalry of that locality made bold threats. Thereupon a great number of colored people made an effort to escape to other parts of the country where they were offered better wages. For this heinous offense they were fired into, and it is believed that the leader of the party was killed, as has not been seen or heard since. His followers were driven back. House if any desired to leave they had to steal away under cover of night.

Here, as elsewhere in the South, the colored vote is a political utility; nay, it is worse, for it is counted for the party against which it is deposited. In Jackson the Republican majority is nearly a thousand, and yet the Democrats carried it off by a vote of 100. A majority, notwithstanding every Republican, with few exceptions, voted the Republican ticket. If an intelligent North will tamely submit to such a condition of things, the colored man may well weep. FLOKIDIAN.

Minister Langdon and the Exodus.

The following correspondence is self-explanatory:

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AID SOCIETY. WASHINGTON, D. C., September 25, 1879. Hon. John M. Langdon: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th inst. in relation to the proposed bill for the relief of the colored people of the South, which, owing to its magnitude and the peculiar combination of causes by which it was brought about, is a measure of great importance, which as yet is apparently seen only in its inception, promises to result in a great benefit to our country in which they were recently held in bondage, and in looking their destiny for well or woe with that of the young and thrifty States of the great Northwest, involving as it does consequences which are destined to have an important bearing upon the future material and intellectual development of the race, this measure excites as called

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